General Description of the Current Fire Situation

The following assets at risk are considered in evaluating placement of pre-fire projects:

- Hydroelectric power
- Fire-flood watersheds
- Water storage
- Water supply
- Soil erosion
- Infrastructure
- Scenic
- Timber
- Range
- Air quality
- Game wildlife
- Historic buildings
- Recreation
- Structures
- Non-game wildlife
- Ecosystem health

In addition the six prescribed fire benefits, as defined by CDF's Vegetation Management Program, are evaluated to prioritize specific projects. These benefits are fire hazard reduction, water yield, wildlife habitat improvement, fisheries habitat improvement, air quality improvement, and range forage improvement.

Based on analysis of the fire benefits, projects in each identified area are prioritized as high, medium or low. Projects having significant fire hazard reduction components are rated as a high priority, while projects having benefits other than fire hazard reduction are rated as either a medium or low priority based on the value of the other derived benefits.

Fuel Bed Analysis

Due to Ventura County's diverse geography and six different microclimates, the county is broken into "fuel beds." Ten fuels beds were identified and serve as the geographical basis from which the plan was developed. Fire history from the past 110 years, assets at risk, fuel types and weather patterns were all considered in the development of this plan and placement of projects. Maps of each fuel bed with proposed fuel modification locations are included for reference. Each fuel bed analysis also includes a summary of the fuel bed, assets at risk, fire history and project descriptions.

The ten fuel beds are:

- Red Mountain Fuel Bed
- Ojai Fuel Bed
- Ventura Fuel Bed
- Fillmore Fuel Bed
- South Mountain Fuel Bed

- Thousand Oaks Fuel Bed
- Malibu Fuel Bed
- Piru Fuel Bed
- Oak Ridge Fuel Bed
- Simi Fuel Bed